

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AVOIDING UNWANTED SENSING IN A
CARDIAC RHYTHM MANAGEMENT DEVICE**

Abstract of the Disclosure

A cardiac rhythm management device that utilizes blanking or refractory periods to avoid misidentification of artifacts and evoked potentials, wherein the refractory periods are discontinuous and may be dependent upon sensed events, expiration of a predefined timing interval, or stimulation events in the same or other chambers of the heart. The discontinuous refractory periods enhance the ability of the device to sense intrinsic events. The present invention includes separate refractory and floating refractory periods incorporated within the sensing protocol for each selected cycle, thereby increasing the time period for normal sensing.

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